



Farm Facts



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Tennessee Hog Inventory Down 2 Percent

Tennessee's total hog and pig inventory declined for the ninth consecutive year to a historically low 215,000 head on December 1, 2003. This was a decrease of 2 percent from December 1, 2002. The December 1, 2003 inventory breakdown and comparison to 2002 is as follows: breeding hogs, 25,000 head, down 17 percent; market hogs, 190,000 head, unchanged; market pigs weighing less than 60 pounds, up 3 percent; 60 - 119 pounds, increased 2 percent; 120 - 179 pounds, fell 3 percent; and 180 pounds and over, down 6 percent.

2003 Farrowings and Pig Crop

Tennessee producers farrowed 51,000 sows from December 2002 through November 2003, down 4 percent. Tennessee's annual litter rate was 8.41 pigs per litter, a historic high. Pig crop was down 12,000 head at 429,000 head.

U.S. Hog Inventory Down 1 Percent

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2003, was 60.0 million head. This was 1 percent above December 1, 2002, but slightly below September 1, 2003. Breeding inventory, at 5.97 million head, was down 1 percent from December 1, 2002, but 1 percent above last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.1 million head, was 1 percent above last year, but slightly below last quarter.

The September - November 2003 U.S. pig crop, at 25.3 million head, was 2 percent more than 2002, but 1 percent below 2001. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.84 million head, 1 percent above last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 8.93

for the September - November period, compared to 8.83 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

Hogs and Pigs: Number on Farms, Tennessee, December 1, 1994-2003

Year	Dec. 1 Inventory	Breeding	Market	Under 60 lbs	60 to 119 lbs	120 to 179 lbs	180 + lbs
1,000 Head							
1994	580	75	505	190	115	110	90
1995	500	65	435	170	102	92	71
1996	400	51	349	129	85	71	64
1997	340	45	295	115	75	60	45
1998	300	40	260	120	55	40	45
1999	250	30	220	70	60	40	50
2000	230	35	195	70	50	40	35
2001	225	30	195	78	43	40	34
2002	220	30	190	75	42	37	36
2003	215	25	190	77	43	36	34

Sows Farrowing and Pig Crop, Tennessee, Dec. - Nov. 1994-2003

Year	Sows Farrowing	% Prev. Year	Pigs Per Litter	% Prev. Year	Pig Crop	% Prev. Year
1,000 Head			Rate Per Sow		1,000 Head	
1994	127	100	7.69	104	976	103
1995	117	92	7.91	103	926	95
1996	97	83	7.88	100	764	83
1997	73	75	8.16	104	596	78
1998	80	110	8.18	100	654	110
1999	54	68	8.07	99	436	67
2000	67	124	8.28	103	555	127
2001	53	79	8.36	101	443	80
2002	53	100	8.32	100	441	100
2003	51	96	8.41	101	429	97

Cotton Ginnings: Running Bales Ginned(Excluding Linters) Prior to December 15, Crop Years, 2000-2003

State	Running Bales Ginned			
	2000	2001	2002	2003
All Cotton				
AL	504,550	776,550	510,350	728,150
AZ	519,200	515,000	471,750	368,600
AR	1,398,450	1,775,000	1,596,450	1,720,800
CA	2,092,950	1,836,650	1,627,800	1,452,300
FL	90,500	131,950	60,500	113,700
GA	1,433,950	1,865,200	1,318,750	1,782,400
LA	923,100	1,042,900	746,850	1,028,300
MS	1,673,400	2,249,650	1,840,000	2,038,650
MO	501,650	664,750	564,950	655,800
NM	57,750	61,350	46,000	48,400
NC	1,168,250	1,355,650	711,450	931,950
OK	137,800	154,100	158,650	159,900
SC	336,400	392,150	105,300	263,750
Tennessee	691,100	936,200	776,350	821,300
TX	3,568,250	3,682,800	3,777,650	3,444,500
VA	135,350	166,500	79,650	99,650
US	15,232,650	17,606,400	14,392,450	15,686,450
Amer-Pima				
AZ	5,400	10,300	12,850	¹
CA	245,150	315,000	341,650	269,150
NM	3,800	9,750	11,600	¹
TX	22,500	32,400	27,450	31,850
US	276,850	367,450	393,550	312,300

¹ Withheld to avoid disclosing individual gins.

Prices Received by Farmers: Tennessee and United States, December 2003, with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Tennessee			United States		
		December 2002	November 2003 ¹	December 2003 ²	December 2002	November 2003 ¹	December 2003 ²
Dollars Per Unit							
Field Crops							
Winter Wheat	bu.	3.75	4.19	---	3.87	3.55	3.62
Corn	bu.	2.71	2.43	2.70	2.32	2.20	2.32
Cotton Lint	lb.	.455	.624	.614 ³	.443	.634	.631 ³
Soybeans	bu.	5.72	6.91	7.75	5.46	7.05	7.29
Livestock							
All beef cattle	cwt.	56.80	70.00	71.40	70.40	93.70	92.70
Steers/heifers	cwt.	74.00	88.00	89.00	75.00	100.00	98.60
Cows	cwt.	31.00	43.00	45.00	34.60	47.80	49.90
Calves	cwt.	80.00	97.00	98.00	95.30	112.00	113.00

¹ Entire month. ² Mid-month. ³ Based on purchases first half of month.

NASS To Release Preliminary Census Data on February 3, 2004

What's Coming Out? --The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will begin releasing data on the Nation's largest information-gathering project for agriculture – the 2002 Census of Agriculture – on February 3, 2004. Historical Highlights of the United States and all 50 States for 2002 and earlier census years will be available for the following data items:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| ! Farms | ! Farms by value of sales categories |
| ! Land in farms | ! Farms by type of organization |
| ! Farms by size categories | ! Principal operator by days of work off farm |
| ! Total cropland | ! Principal operator by primary occupation |
| ! Irrigated land | |

Selected Operator Characteristics data by race, gender, and national origin will also be available on February 3. Data items include:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| ! Sex of operator | ! Race |
| ! Primary occupation | ! Living on an American Indian reservation |
| ! Place of residence | ! Number of persons living in household of: |
| ! Days worked off farm | - principal operator |
| ! Years on present farm | - second operator |
| ! Age group categories | - third operator |

Final Census Data to Follow – Complete tabulated census of agriculture data for the US, States, and the 3,000 plus counties, comparable to previous censuses, will be made available in Spring 2004. A census redesign on new computer systems will require some additional time to provide detailed data for a more complete census picture than has been previously possible.

New Items – New on the 2002 Census of Agriculture are information on: operator characteristics on multiple (up to 3) operators per farm; production contracts/landlord shares; computer and Internet use; more detailed farm-related income; and new commodities (bison, elk, llamas, deer, emus, and ostriches).

Key Data Items – Other key data items collected and tabulated include: land use and ownership; acres irrigated; crop acreage and quantities harvested; livestock and poultry inventories; value of products sold; participation in Federal farm programs; market value of land and buildings; number of hired farm workers; and the structure of U.S. farming and ranching operations.

Reports – All reports will be available free through the NASS Web site at www.usda.gov/nass/. To order a printed copy of any NASS report, call the NASS Order Desk at 1-800-999-6779. For additional information on the census of agriculture, call the NASS Hotline at 1-800-727-9540. Subscribe to receive e-mailed news releases and announcements on the census and survey results at the NASS Homepage and click on News and Coming Events.

Broiler Eggs Set In 19 Selected States Up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 205 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 27, 2003. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier. Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 168 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 27, 2003. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through December 27, 2003 were 8.65 billion, down slightly from the same period a year earlier.

Chicken and Eggs: U.S. egg production totaled 7.28 billion during November 2003, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.25 billion table eggs and 1.02 billion hatching eggs, of which 968 million were broiler-type and 56.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during November 2003 averaged 336 million, down 1 percent from a year earlier. November egg production per 100 layers was 2,165 eggs, up one percent from November 2002.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by State and United States, November 2002-2003

Selected States	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 or more		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Thousands				Number	
Alabama	2,316	2,081	9,692	9,364	1,826	1,901
Arkansas	4,758	4,341	14,645	14,637	1,857	1,886
Georgia	10,825	11,416	20,122	20,499	2,092	2,059
North Carolina	3,495	3,413	10,768	10,732	1,922	1,910
All Other States ²	253,585	251,756	282,581	280,820	2,176	2,206
United States	274,979	273,007	337,808	336,052	2,139	2,165

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size. ² Tennessee included in other states.

Livestock Slaughter: Cattle slaughter totaled 2.43 million head, down 15 percent from November 2002. The average live weight was down 24 pounds from the previous year, at 1,236 pounds. Calf slaughter totaled 78,000 head, down 14 percent from November 2002. The average live weight was 12 pounds above last year, at 321 pounds. Hog kill totaled 8.58 million head, 1 percent below November 2002. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 269 pounds. Sheep slaughter totaled 236,300 head, 13 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 6 pounds from November a year ago.

Livestock Slaughter¹: United States, November 2002-2003

Species	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Cattle	2,861	2,426	3,606,284	2,998,990	1,260	1,236
Calves	91	78	28,026	25,084	309	321
Hogs	8,654	8,582	2,315,147	2,311,565	268	269
Sheep & lambs	271	236	35,777	32,546	132	138

¹ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter (excludes farm slaughter).

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